K-C No. 17,049

4936

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Peiguang Zhou Serial No. 09/944,627 Filed August 31, 2001 Confirmation No. 9253 For MODIFIED RUBBER-BASED ADHESIVES

April 24, 2003

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, SIR:

LETTER TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 26, 2003, Applicants elect for examination claims 1-14 (Group I). Applicants therefore withdraw from consideration, without prejudice to their patentability, the claims of Group II (15-65). Applicants also expressly reserve the right to file a divisional application directed towards the non-elected claims in the future.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants believe that no election is required as the terms "first elastomeric substrate" and "second substrate" are only found in the non-elected claims of Group II (15-65). the event that the Office deems an election is required, Applicants elect the necked-bonded laminate for the first elastomeric substrate, and the necked-bonded laminate for the second substrate. Applicants believe that all claims in Group I should be examined as the election of species requirement is directed only at claims in Group II.

Respectfully submitted,

Christophe WM. Goff, Reg. No. 41,785 SENNIGER, POWERS, LEAVITT & ROEDEL One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63102 (314) 231-5400

CMG/dmt

Law Offices of

SENNIGER, POWERS, LEAVITT AND ROEDEL

One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Telephone (314) 231-5400 Facsimile (314) 231-4342



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DATE: April 24, 2003 ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER: KCC 4936 PTO FACSIMILE NUMBER: (703) 872-9310
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Applicant's Name: Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc.
Serial No. (Control No.): 09/944,627 Examiner: Jackson
Filing Date: August 31, 2001 Art Unit: 1773
Application Title: MODIFIED RUBBER-BASED ADHESIVES
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